

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A foundation ~~Foundation~~ for a construction (8) with at least one pile-like device ~~which~~ that is anchored in or on the ground (M) and ~~basically~~ comprises an elongate pile element (1, 21, 31, 41, 51), wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the pile-like device also has at least one reinforcement element (2, 22, 32, 42, 52) ~~which~~ that is constructed and disposed ~~in such a way that~~, between the reinforcement element (2, 22, 32, 42, 52) and the pile element (1, 21, 31, 41, 51), a gap is formed, and wherein said gap ~~which~~ can be at least partially filled ~~at least partially~~ with at least one free-flowing filling material (6, 10a, 10b, 30a, 30b).

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Foundation~~ The foundation as claimed in the ~~preceding claim, characterised in that~~ claim 1, wherein the pile element (1, 21, 31, 41, 51) is constructed as an inner tube around which the reinforcement element (2, 22, 32, 42, 52) is disposed.

3. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation~~ as claimed in the ~~preceding claim, characterised in that~~ claim 2, wherein the pile element (1, 21, 31,

41, 51) is constructed as an inner tube and the reinforcement element is constructed as an outer tube, said inner tube being ~~which is~~ disposed in the outer tube ~~in such a way that~~ the gap which substantially surrounds the inner tube is formed between ~~them~~ the inner tube and the outer tube.

4. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that claim 1, wherein~~ the foundation comprises one single pile-like device which stands substantially in the ~~an~~ extension of the ~~a~~ vertical axis of the construction.

5. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that claim 1, wherein~~ the foundation has comprises more than two pile-like devices.

6. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that claim 1, wherein all or at least a~~ proportion of the filling material (10a, 30a) comprises a bulk material which is not damaging to the environment.

7. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that claim 1, wherein~~ the filling material is a concrete-like mass ~~(grout).~~

8. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation as claimed in any one of~~

~~the preceding claims characterised in that claim 1, wherein,~~ in the region of the gap, the pile element (1, 21, 31, 41, 51) and the reinforcement element (2, 22, 32, 42, 52) have means for increasing the transfer of shear between the elements and the filling material.

9. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation~~ as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that claim 8, wherein,~~ when the elements are constructed as tubes, the means for increasing the transfer of shear (9) are disposed on ~~the~~ an inner face of ~~the~~ an outer tube and on ~~the~~ an outer face of ~~the~~ an inner tube.

10. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation~~ as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that claim 8, wherein~~ the means for increasing the transfer of shear comprise annular accumulations of material applied to the tubes.

11. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation~~ as claimed in the ~~preceding claims, characterised in that claim 9, wherein~~ the means for increasing the transfer of shear comprise at least three fins (61) aligned parallel to ~~the~~ a longitudinal axis of the pile-like device and connected to one of the tubes.

12. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation~~ as claimed in the ~~preceding claims, characterised in that claim 11, wherein~~ ~~at least three of the fins (62) ensure the centring~~ centering of the inner and outer tubes.

13. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation~~ as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that claim 1, wherein~~ at least three spacers are disposed ~~permanently or temporarily~~ in the gap between the elements by way of connecting means.

14. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation~~ as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that claim 1, wherein~~, between the pile-like device and the construction, a junction piece (3, 23, 33, 43) is disposed which connects them to one another.

15. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation~~ as claimed in the ~~preceding claim, characterised in that claim 14, wherein~~ the junction piece (3, 23, 33, 43) ~~is constructed in such a way that it has~~ includes a screw flange for connection to the construction.

16. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation~~ as claimed in ~~any one of the two preceding claims, characterised in that claim 14, wherein~~ the junction piece (3, 23, 33, 43) is connected to the pile-like device via a concrete bond ~~(grouted joint)~~.

17. (Currently Amended) The foundation ~~Foundation~~ as claimed in the ~~preceding claims, characterised in that claim 14, wherein~~ a part-region of the junction piece (3, 23, 33, 43) is constructed for arrangement in the gap between the

~~inner tube and outer tube~~elements.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The foundation~~ Foundation as claimed in ~~any one of the two preceding claims, characterised in that claim 17, wherein~~ the junction piece is equipped with means for increasing the transfer of shear between the junction piece and the filling material.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The foundation~~ Foundation as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that claim 1, wherein~~ the construction is an offshore construction.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~Method of introduction of~~ A method for introducing a pile-like device having a pile element (1, 21, 31, 41, 51) into the ground as a foundation of a construction (8), comprising the following method steps:

- ~~introduction of~~ introducing the pile element (1, 21, 31, 41, 51) into the ground,
- disposing over or in the pile-like device a junction piece (3, 23, 33, 43), said junction piece serving to connect ~~which serves for connection of~~ the pile-like device to the construction (8),
- ~~connection of~~ connecting the junction piece to the pile-like device, characterised in that ~~wherein:~~
- before or after the introduction of the pile element (1, 21, 31, 41, 51) into the ground, introducing a reinforcement element (2, 22, 32, 42, 52) ~~is introduced~~ into the ground, the reinforcement element being constructed and disposed relative

to the pile element (1, 21, 31, 41, 51) ~~in such a way that~~ an increase in the ~~a~~ strength of the pile-like device is achieved, and

- filling, at least partially, the gaps between the junction piece and the pile-like device ~~are filled at least partially with~~ a filling material.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in the preceding claim, ~~characterised in that claim 20, wherein~~ the reinforcement element (2, 22, 32, 42, 52) is constructed and disposed relative to the pile element (1, 21, 31, 41, 51) ~~in such a way that~~ a gap is produced ~~between them~~ therebetween, said gap being at least partially which is filled at least partially with at least one filling material in an additional step.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in the preceding claim, ~~characterised in that claim 21, wherein~~ the additional step is carried out between the arrangement of the junction piece (3, 23, 33, 43).

23. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that claim 22, wherein,~~ in a further last step, the junction between the pile-like device and the junction piece is sealed with a material ~~which that~~ is preferably permanently resilient.

24. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that claim 21, wherein~~ at least one of the two elements is introduced into the ground by means of a ramming method and/or

drilling method.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that it claim 21, wherein said method is used in relates to an offshore construction and the pile-like device is introduced into the a seabed.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ A method of dismantling a foundation for a construction (8) with at least one pile-like device that is anchored in or on the ground (M) and comprises an elongate pile element (1, 21, 31, 41, 51), wherein the pile-like device also has at least one reinforcement element (2, 22, 32, 42, 52) that is constructed and disposed such that, between the reinforcement element (2, 22, 32, 42, 52) and the pile element (1, 21, 31, 41, 51), a gap is formed, and wherein said gap can be at least partially filled with at least one free-flowing filling material (6, 10a, 10b, 30a, 30b) for a construction with a free-flowing filling material as claimed in the preceding claims, characterised in that wherein the pile element is constructed as an inner tube and the reinforcement element is constructed as an outer tube and wherein, after removal of the supported construction, comprising the steps of:

- in a first step detaching the outer tube is detached in the a region of the a level of the a seabed,
- in a second step withdrawing the outer tube is ~~withdrawn~~ so that the filling material escapes downwards onto the seabed,
- in a third step detaching the inner tube is ~~detached~~ in the region of the level of the seabed and is then ~~withdrawn~~ withdrawing the inner tube.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in the ~~preceding~~
~~claim, characterised in that~~ claim 26, wherein the a junction piece between the
foundation and the construction is ~~only dismantled~~ in an intermediate step performed
between detaching the outer tube and withdrawing the outer tube~~between step one~~
~~and step two.~~

28. (Cancelled)